



PATENT--NO FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	) I hereby certify that this
MARKUS SCHMID ET AL.	) paper is being deposited
Serial No.: 10/568,208) with the United States
Filed: February 13, 2006) Postal Service with
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Attorney Docket No. 29827/41857) first class mail, in an
Group Art Unit: 1713) envelope addressed to:
Examiner: Unassigned	) Mail Stop Amendment
	) Commissioner for Patents
	) P.O. Box 1450
	) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
)
	) Dated: August 9, 2006
)
	) <i>James J. Napoli</i>
	) James J. Napoli
	) Registration No. 32,361
	) Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants hereby bring to the examiner's attention patent documents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, applicants enclose a completed Form PTO-1449 listing the possibly pertinent patent documents and a copy of each non-U.S. patent document.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, and, to applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office

Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

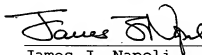
The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

We also enclose a copy of a International Search Report for the convenience of the examiner. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 6,150,479 corresponds to German-language EP 0 816 383.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

By



James J. Napoli
(Registration No. 32,361)
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois
August 9, 2006



Form 1449PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/568,208
Filing Date	February 13, 2006
First Named Inventor	Markus Schmid
Group Art Unit	1713
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	29827/41857

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
/M.B./		5,269,980	12/14/1993
/M.B./		6,150,477	11/21/2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
/M.B./	0 358 180 (EPO)	12/27/1989	
/M.B./	0 816 383 (EPO)	01/07/1998	
/M.B./	WO 96/40427 (PCT)	12/19/1996	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	/Michael Bernshteyn/	Date Considered	02/15/2009
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /M.B./